

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Northern Chinese businessmen, who have been critical of the corrupt activities of taking-over officials from the South, resent the Central Government's about face in adopting a policy of "Northerners for the North" now that it is too late to save the situation. The Northerners feel that this is a shameful shuffle of responsibility and that Northerners are urged to take over some of the positions held by Southern officials at a time when the latter are leaving the North as fast as possible.
2. Northerners are also resentful of the emphasis placed on the reconstruction of South China and of the lack of Central Government assistance to the North in the way of food, money, or military support. Another cause for grievance is the fact that no one from North China was represented on the China Trade Mission to Japan.
3. Much of the populace and most businessmen feel that conditions were far better for them under the Japanese, and they do not hesitate to say so openly. There are many capable Northerners now with the Communists who might not have joined the latter had they not been driven to it by the Central Government.
4. A delegation to Nanking of North China representatives (businessmen and government officials from Peiping and Tientsin) have asked the Central Government to allow North China to carry on trade with foreign countries directly and not through (the regulations imposed by) the Central Government.
5. It is felt that Tientsin will be the center of any activity against further Central Government control since Tientsin has suffered more than Peiping in economic ills (? and is more an economic center).

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